(a) The Delhi Development Authority has no land at Rouse Avenue and, therefore, the question of development of land/auction of land by DDA does not arise.

(b) to (e) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Conference of Ministers of Urban Development and Housing

†600. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Ministers of Urban Development and Housing was held recently in Delhi;

(b) if so, the decisions taken in this conference and the steps taken by Government, so far, to implement the same;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have asked the States to bring the stamp duty below five percent;

(d) if so, whether any time-limit has been fixed for the same; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference of Ministers of Urban Development, Local Self Government and Housing held at New Delhi on 12th September, 2002, deliberated on the issues relating to urban sector reforms, municipal administration including amendment in Rent Control Laws, involvement of private sector in development of urban infrastructure etc.

(c) to (e) The issue relating to rationalization of Stamp duty was also discussed in the above Conference. An Urban Reform Incentive Fund, which is a reform linked assistance to the States has been set up with an initial allocation of Rs. 500 crores. The assistance under the above Fund will be released as Central Assistance to Annual Plan of the States. Since, fixation of Stamp Duty falls within the jurisdiction of State Governments, it is perhaps not possible to fix time limit to achieve the objective.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.